



News Release

WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wisconsin Army Guard task force mobilized for eventual service in Afghanistan

Eleven Wisconsin Army National Guard members, all belonging to the Joint Force Headquarters and separate units in Madison, began an 18-month call to active duty this week for support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

The Wisconsin soldiers will join nine others from the Virginia Army National Guard to form the Central Corps Assistance Group (CCAG) whose responsibilities include mentoring the Afghanistan National Army's Central Corps staff in military tactics, procedures and operations.

The Wisconsin and Virginia Guard members will fall under the command of the Indiana National Guard's 76th Infantry Brigade. The brigade will provide command and control for Coalition Joint Task Force Phoenix, a multi-state training and assistance task force composed of 1,556 Army National Guard soldiers from around the country.

The group will report to Camp Atterbury, Ind., June 25 and is expected to deploy to Afghanistan in early to mid-August, according to Col. Todd Nehls, CCAG commander and Wisconsin Army National Guard member. In civilian life, Nehls is sheriff of Dodge County.

Mobilization of these 11 soldiers brings the total number of Wisconsin National Guard soldiers and airmen currently on active duty to about 1,400. In addition, about 800 Wisconsin Army Guard soldiers remain on alert for possible mobilization.

With this mobilization, about 4,260 soldiers and airmen from the Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard — nearly than 45 percent of the Guard's total force in the state — will have served on active duty since Sept. 11, 2001.

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